

## **NEELY'S BEND MIDDLE SCHOOL WINS TOP HONORS IN PILOT RECYCLING PROGRAM**



Neely's Bend Middle School students LaQuinta Hoga, Patrick Newbern, Mandy May, Shaquille Anthony, Keyona Pruitt, Erica Waggoner (8th grade teacher, holding certificate), Anssa Rock, James Yates, Anthony Benford

To recognize their efforts to start a recycling program, students, faculty and staff of Neely's Bend Middle School will be treated to an Appreciation Lunch hosted by Allied Waste, Public Works and Metro Beautification and Environment on the last day of school – Thursday, May 25.

Earlier this spring, Public Works, Metro Public Schools and Allied Waste (formerly BFI) initiated a Pilot Recycling Program in the Hunter's Lane school cluster, and 11 schools participated. Metro Beautification supplied deskside recycling bins, and Allied Waste provided recycle dumpsters which were emptied on a weekly basis.

Neely's Bend Middle is being honored as the top recycling school in the Allied Waste Pilot Recycling Program, and Allied plans to donate \$250 to Principal Ralph Tagg for the school's efforts.

Eighth grade science teacher Erica Waggoner coordinated the Neely's Bend program, which included three classrooms from each grade level, as well as the school office, teaching and custodial staff and cafeteria personnel. Within just weeks of beginning their program, Neely's Bend began requesting additional pick-ups because their recycling dumpster was filling up so quickly.

Allied Waste is drafting a phase-in plan to expand the Pilot Recycling Program to more Metro schools this Fall.

For more information about efforts to promote recycling in Metro schools, visit [Metro Beautification](#).



PW Director Billy Lynch (right) and Wayne Gill of Allied Waste (left) present an Appreciation Award to science teacher Erica Waggoner (center), who led the recycling program at Neely's Bend Middle School.



Principal Ralph Tagg (right) of Neely's Bend Middle School accepts a \$250 check from Wayne Gill (left) of Allied Waste Industries